

## FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

PETITION OF THE NATIONAL CUSTOMS  
BROKERS AND FORWARDERS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC. FOR  
INITIATION OF RULEMAKING

Petition No. P2-15

Served: August 2, 2016

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**BY THE COMMISSION:** Mario CORDERO, *Chairman*; Rebecca F. DYE, Michael A. KHOURI, William P. DOYLE, and Daniel B. MAFFEI, *Commissioners*.

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### **Order Granting Petition**

On April 18, 2015, the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Inc. (NCBFAA) filed a petition requesting that the Commission initiate a rulemaking to revise its regulations in 46 C.F.R. Parts 531 and 532. Specifically, NCBFAA requests that the Commission: (1) revise its regulations to allow for non-vessel-operating common carrier (NVOCC) negotiated rate arrangements (NRAs) to include economic terms beyond rates and be modified at any time upon mutual agreement between an NVOCC and a shipper; (2) delete § 532.5(e) that precludes any amendment or modification of an NRA; and (3) either eliminate the filing and essential terms publications requirement of NVOCC Service Arrangements (NSAs) or eliminate Part 531 in its entirety.

The Commission is granting NCBFAA's petition and will initiate a rulemaking with respect to the revisions discussed in the petition. Because the Commission is currently in the midst of a separate rulemaking to amend portions of Part 531 related to NSAs (Docket No. 16-05), the Commission will delay initiating the requested rulemaking until after the rulemaking in Docket No. 16-05 is concluded.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, That NCBFAA's petition is granted, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That the Commission will initiate the requested rulemaking following the conclusion of the rulemaking proceeding in Docket No. 16-05.

By the Commission.

Karen V. Gregory  
Secretary